ELLIOTT KALAN • ANDREA MUTTI
AFTERSHOCK
#2
MANIAC OF NEW YORK
DON'T CALL IT A COMEBACK
TAYLOR ESPOSITO

MANIAC OF NEW YORK

DON'T CALL IT A COMEBACK

2

THE WIDENING GYRE

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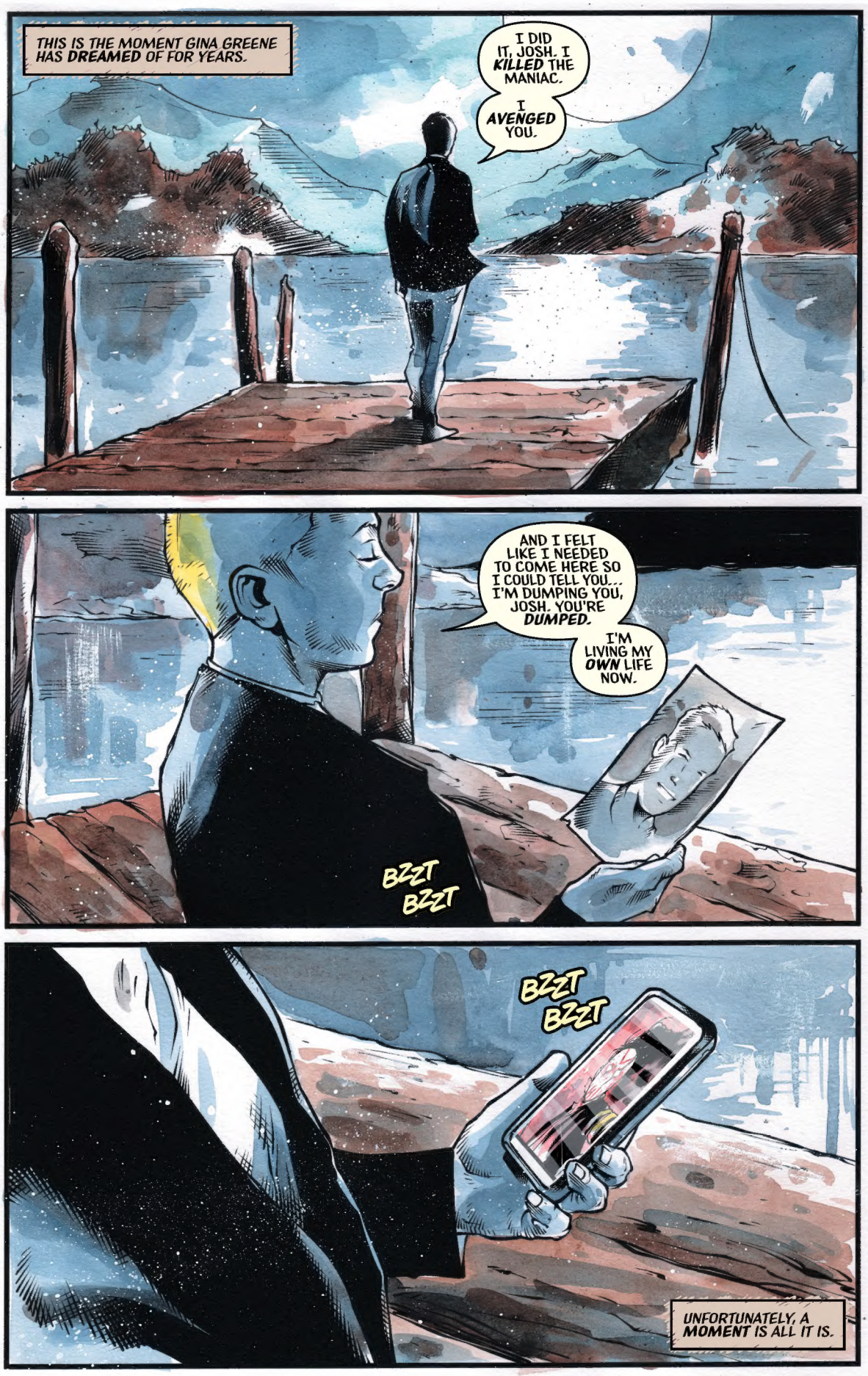

THIS IS THE MOMENT GINA GREENE HAS DREAMED OF FOR YEARS.
I DID IT, JOSH. I KILLED THE MANIAC.
I AVENGED YOU.
AND I FELT LIKE I NEEDED TO COME HERE SO I COULD TELL YOU... I'M DUMPING YOU, JOSH. YOU'RE DUMPED.
I'M LIVING MY OWN LIFE NOW.
BZZT BZZT
BZZT BZZT
UNFORTUNATELY, A MOMENT IS ALL IT IS.

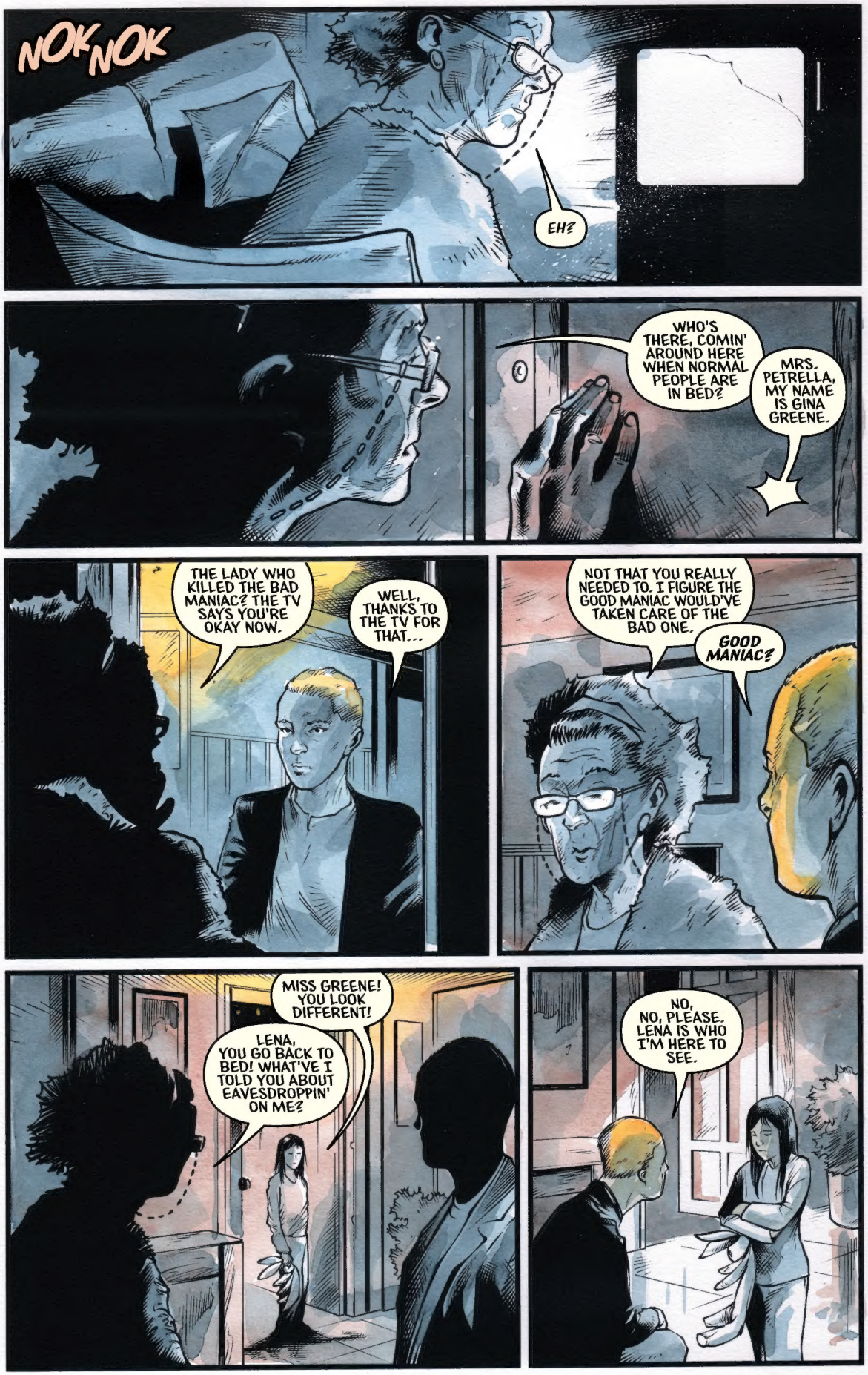
I SAID THE MANIAC'S BACK, GINA! OR THERE'S A *NEW* ONE, I DON'T KNOW.
EITHER WAY, I NEED YOU.
I WAS FREE, ZELDA! NOW YOU WANT ME TO WRECK MY LIFE AGAIN?!
DON'T GIVE ME THAT SHIT! YOU'RE ALL ABOUT STOPPING THE MANIAC.
THIS IS WHO YOU ARE!
WITHOUT THE MANIAC WHAT HAVE YOU EVEN GOT?!
I WAS KIND OF HOPING TO FIND THAT OUT.

GINA TELLS ZELDA NO. SHE'S FREE. SHE PLANS TO KEEP IT THAT WAY.
--LEAVING TWELVE HOMELESS DEAD AND RESIDENTS OF THE CITY ASKING IF THE MANIAC REALLY HAS RETURNED.
GRRRR!!
--SO WHY AM I SUPPOSED TO BE MAD AT MANIAC MARY?
FOR GIVING ME SAFE, CLEAN STREETS?
LET'S BE HONEST, WE'RE JUST MAD WE WERE TOO CHICKEN TO DO IT FIRST!
PETE FROM ELTINGVILLE'S ON THE LINE. PETE, TELL ME I'M WRONG.
NO, GLENN, SOMEONE'S FINALLY DEFENDING WHAT'S OURS.
WHAT?
GINA WANTS TO STAY FREE.
WELCOME TO PENNSYLVANIA
BUT WAS SHE EVER?

WYATT DOESN'T KNOW WHY HE LET DANTON TALK HIM INTO THIS.
I THOUGHT YOU KNEW HOW TO DO THIS, MAN!
DANTON'S BEEN RECKLESS SINCE THAT NERD RAPHAEL SAVED THEM FROM MANIAC HARRY.
LIKE HE'S GOT SOMETHING TO PROVE.
I DO, NOW SHUT UP.
FORGET THIS, I'VE GOT HOMEWORK TO DO.
HEY! THAT'S MY CAR!
OH SHIT.
HOLD UP, HOLD UP, LET ME EXPLAIN.
HURR...
THE FUCK?
WYATT REALLY SHOULDN'T HAVE LET DANTON TALK HIM INTO THIS.

HURR!
THE MANIAC!
THAT'S NO MANIAC! WE'VE SEEN THE MANIAC!
HUR.
HUAGH!
DANTON!
HURR!

WE SHOULDN'T BE HERE!
FUCK THE SYSTEM!
WE NEVER SHOULD'VE LEFT THE BRO--
AAGH!
HURR.
AND MY PRODUCER IS TELLING ME MANIAC MARY JUST TOOK OUT THREE CARJACKERS IN THE MIDDLE OF AN ATTEMPTED AUTOMOBILE THEFT.
'LEAST SOMEONE'S DOIN' IT!
TURNING TO LOCAL PHILADELPHIA NEWS...

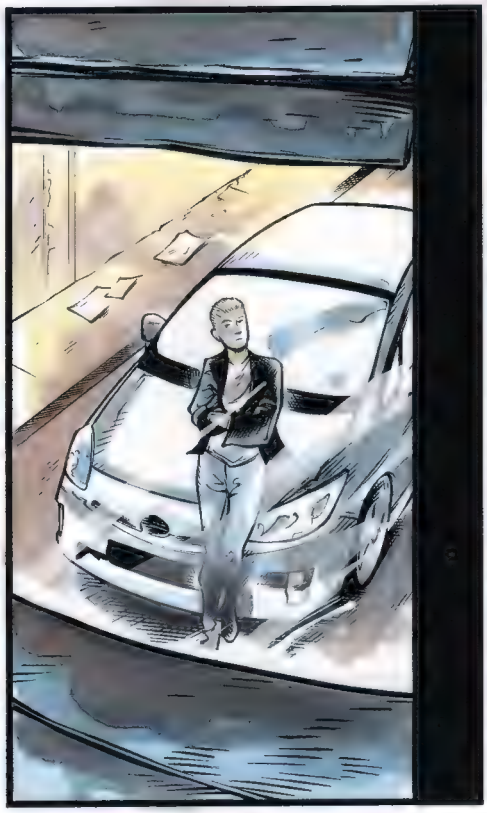

NOK NOK
EH?
WHO'S THERE, COMIN' AROUND HERE WHEN NORMAL PEOPLE ARE IN BED?
MRS. PETRELLA, MY NAME IS GINA GREENE.
THE LADY WHO KILLED THE BAD MANIAC? THE TV SAYS YOU'RE OKAY NOW.
WELL, THANKS TO THE TV FOR THAT...
NOT THAT YOU REALLY NEEDED TO. I FIGURE THE GOOD MANIAC WOULD'VE TAKEN CARE OF THE BAD ONE.
GOOD MANIAC?
MISS GREENE! YOU LOOK DIFFERENT!
LENA, YOU GO BACK TO BED! WHAT'VE I TOLD YOU ABOUT EAVESDROPPIN' ON ME?
NO, NO, PLEASE. LENA IS WHO I'M HERE TO SEE.

DAMNED IF I'M GONNA MISS MY TV, THEN...
YOU GOT MY MESSAGE!
YOUR MESSAGE?
I CAME TO SEE YOU, BUT YOU WERE GONE, BUT DETECTIVE PETTIBONE TOLD ME YOU KILLED THE MANIAC, AND I TOOK THE TRAIN IN, AND THERE WAS THIS SCARY MAN ON IT--
YOU TOOK THE TRAIN INTO THE CITY?
SNUCK OFF LIKE HER MOTHER! AND SHE'S IN A DAMN LOAD OF TROUBLE FOR IT!
CITY FULL OF CARJACKERS AND BUMS. GOOD THING WE'VE GOT MARY NOW.
YOU CAME BACK TO SEE ME? BUT YOU WERE SAFE.
GO AHEAD, IGNORE ME. BIG CITY DEEP STATE...
I FIGURED OUT HOW TO STOP THE MANIAC. AND I JUST THOUGHT, YOU KNOW, ABOUT IF I COULD HELP.
'CAUSE IF I COULD HELP, THEN... DON'T I HAVE TO?

HOW LONG WILL WE WATCH THIS BRAVE WOMAN TAKE IT SOLELY UPON HER SHOULDERS TO SAVE OUR CITY?
HOW LONG WILL WE LET THE REAL MANIAC, THE MAYOR, ATTACK REGULAR PEOPLE TRYING TO CLEAN UP OUR CITY FOR OUR CHILDREN?!
STATE SENATOR PAT MAYES

I'M OUT, BERNBAUM.
WHY? 'CAUSE YOU WERE RIGHT!
NOBODY GIVES A SHIT WHO I AM OR WHAT I DO. NOBODY CARES WHAT I SAY. NOBODY LISTENS!
HONK HONK
HONK
HONNNNNNNNNNNNK

WHO'S MAKING ALL THAT--!



I'M HANGING UP.

YOU'RE BACK?
YES.
WANT TO TELL ME WHY?
NO.
I TALKED TO LENA PETRELLA.
ABOUT WHAT HAPPENED TO THE MANIAC UNDER THE MUSEUM?
EXACTLY. SO I GOOGLED "MANIAC HARRY" AND "MUSEUM OF NATURAL HISTORY"...
...AND I GOT THIS.
SO LET'S GO.
WAIT. THE MAYOR SAID WE DON'T HAVE TO DO THIS ON OUR OWN.
YES, WE DO.
BECAUSE YOU'RE THE *ONLY* PERSON IN THIS WHOLE DAMN CITY I TRUST.

I'M HAPPY TO ANSWER ANY QUESTIONS YOU HAVE ABOUT OUR HOLDINGS IN THE HALL OF ASIAN PEOPLES.
CAN'T BELIEVE HOW RACIST THIS PLACE IS...
STAY ON TASK, ZELDA. TELL US EVERYTHING YOU CAN ABOUT THIS THING.
THE TAMGALY AMULET DATES TO THE LATE 11TH CENTURY. LOCAL SUPERSTITION CREDITS IT WITH PROTECTION FROM A REGIONAL "FEAR SPIRIT" OF SOME SORT.
IT WAS ACQUIRED WITH A PAINTED GOAT HIDE DEPICTING THE SPIRIT ANIMATING A DEAD BODY TO, "THIN THE RANKS OF MEN WHERE THEY GROW TOO THICK", ACCORDING TO THE ROUGH TRANSLATION.
IF YOU ASK ME, IT SOUNDS LIKE THE KIND OF THING THIS CITY COULD USE.

SOUNDS AN AWFUL LOT LIKE THE MANIAC. WHY ARE WE ONLY SEEING THIS NOW?
THAT'S HARDLY THE MUSEUM'S FAULT. THE AMULET'S BEEN ON DISPLAY SINCE 1947.
NO! THAT'S UNACCEPTABLE!
THE MANIAC'S BEEN KILLING PEOPLE FOR *YEARS!* YOU COULD HAVE SAID SOMETHING, BUT YOU DIDN'T! WHY?
I DON'T KNOW WHAT YOU'RE--
SOMEONE TOLD YOU TO KEEP THIS QUIET! WHO WAS IT?!
WHO?!
IT'S NOT MY FAULT! IT'S NOT MY FAULT!
BERNBAUM SAID HE'D TELL THE WORLD ABOUT IT!
HE SAID HE'D PUT IT IN HIS NEW BOOK.

NOK NOK NOK NOK NOK NOK NOK
WHY IS IT SOMEONE ALWAYS DROPS BY WHEN THE WRITING JUICES FINALLY START FLOWING?
WHY, DETECTIVE PETTIBONE! AND IS THAT...IT IS! THE ELUSIVE SAINT GREENE!
WHAT AN UNEXPECTED DELIGHT!
SMAK
YOU MONSTER! HOW MANY PEOPLE *DIED* BECAUSE OF YOU?!
WHAT? ZELDA, IS THIS ANY WAY TO TREAT YOUR COLLABORATOR?
COLLABORATOR?

I CAN EXPLAIN.
WHAT'S TO EXPLAIN? YOU SOLD ME YOUR STORY.
WHAT? YOUR PARTNER DIDN'T TELL YOU SHE WAS WORKING WITH ME?
YOU--?
I WAS WRONG.
THERE'S NO ONE IN THIS DAMN CITY I CAN TRUST.
THAT'S DEFINITELY GOING INTO THE BOOK.

FUCK YOU. THE DEAL'S OFF.
YOU SIGNED A CONTRACT, DETECTIVE! YOU PLAY BALL OR MY LAWYERS WILL MAKE MANIAC HARRY LOOK LIKE MISTER ROGERS!
BZZT BZZT
WHAT THE HELL DO YOU WANT?
OOH, SASSY. THIS IS SADIE SINISTER.
SADIE SINISTER?
OF COURSE YOU KNOW WHO I AM. EVERYONE DOES.
YOU'RE THE NAUGHTY BOY WHO WROTE THE MANIAC BOOK, RIGHT?
UH-HUH. I MEAN YES, I MEAN--
HOW'D YOU LIKE TO BE MY DATE TO THE MET GALA?

ROSS GARRET HAS EVERYTHING HE ALWAYS HOPED FOR: A FAMILY, A JOB, EVEN OWNS HIS OWN HOME.
SO WHY DOES HE LIVE IN FEAR?
ASK YOURSELF, WHAT'S SCARIER?
MANIAC MARY RUNNING LOOSE, TAKING OUT SOCIETY'S TRASH? OR **NO ONE** TAKING OUT THE TRASH?
HIS LIFE FEELS LIKE A NON-STOP PANIC ATTACK. THE WORLD SEEMS UPSIDE-DOWN.
THEY SAID THE BOSTON TEA PARTY WAS THE WORK OF **MANIACS**, TOO. IF THE **ELITES** ARE **SCARED** OF MANIAC MARY...
ROSS GARRET DOESN'T REMEMBER WHAT IT FEELS LIKE TO HAVE SOLID GROUND BENEATH HIS FEET.
...MAYBE THAT'S A **GOOD** THING.
UNTIL NOW.
NOW IT ALL MAKES SENSE.

KURT SPENCER HAS NEVER FELT SO ALIVE. SO IN CONTROL.
-HUFF-...
-HUFF-...
-HUFF-...
MANIAC RULES
GET YOUR ASS OFF THIS STREET! THIS IS OUR NEIGHBOR-HOOD!
YOU DON'T BELONG HERE!
WE'RE THROUGH BEING YOUR VICTIMS!
KURT SPENCER DIDN'T GO ALL THE WAY, THOUGH. HE DIDN'T KILL.
THIS TIME.
HURR...

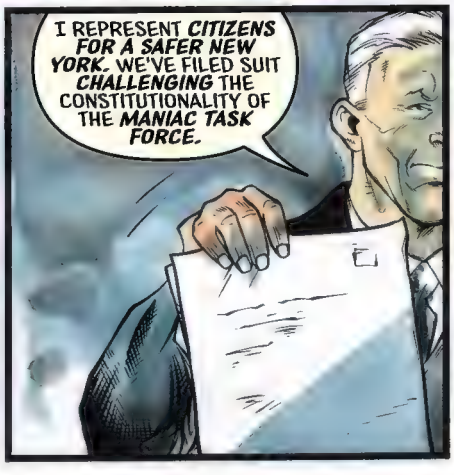
WHAT DO YOU WANT ME TO SAY? I'M SORRY? AFTER YOU DISAPPEARED WITHOUT SO MUCH AS A "GO FUCK YOURSELF"?
NEVER SAID I WAS PERFECT, ZELDA.

NO, YOU JUST ACTED LIKE YOU WERE! AND YOU KNEW I WAS A FUCK-UP, SO WHAT'S YOUR PROBLEM?
I GUESS I THOUGHT YOU WERE AN HONEST FUCK-UP.

I THOUGHT I'D FINALLY FOUND SOMEONE LIKE ME. BUT I WAS WRONG.
GINA--

WE DON'T HAVE TO BE FRIENDS. WE'LL STOP THIS NEW MANIAC.
AND THEN THAT'S IT.
BUT--

EXCUSE ME, LADIES, WOULD YOU HAPPEN TO BE GINA GREENE AND ZELDA PETTIBONE?
YEAH, WHO'S ASKING?


I REPRESENT *CITIZENS FOR A SAFER NEW YORK*. WE'VE FILED SUIT *CHALLENGING* THE CONSTITUTIONALITY OF THE *MANIAC TASK FORCE*.

EXCUSE ME?
THE TASK FORCE'S AUTHORITY WAS IMPROPERLY DELEGATED. WE'VE ALREADY RECEIVED AN INJUNCTION *HALTING* YOUR INVESTIGATION UNTIL THE SUIT HAS BEEN DECIDED.
THAT'S INSANE! NEW YORKERS ARE IN DANGER! *THIS IS AN EMERGENCY!*
SAYS THE UNELECTED GOVERNMENT *BUREAUCRAT* WHO WANTS TO EXPAND HER POWER OVER OUR CIVIL LIBERTIES.
MY *CLIENTS* WILL NOT STAND BY WHILE YOU THREATEN THE *RIGHTS* OF THEIR CONSTITUENTS.
AND YOU EXPECT US TO JUST STAND BY WITH A MONSTER ON THE LOOSE?
WHAT MONSTER, DETECTIVE? THE STREETS FEEL *SAFE* AGAIN. REAL NEW YORKERS ARE BACK ON TOP.

"I EVEN HEAR THE MET GALA IS BACK."
THE STARS CONTINUE TO COME OUT TONIGHT!
AND THE CITY HAS DONE EVERYTHING IT CAN TO PROTECT THESE BEAUTIFUL PEOPLE.
DESPITE THE BEST EFFORTS OF THE WOKE PATROL TO POOP EVERYONE'S PARTY.
COMMUTERS DIE! MILLIONAIRES LAUGH!
PROTECTION FOR ALL NEW YORKERS!
AND OH MY GOD, WHAT IS THAT--?
ARE YOU SEEING THIS? IT'S TERRIFYING! IT'S A NIGHTMARE!

IT'S SADIE SINISTER!
DEAR LORD, SHE IS SLASHING THROUGH GOOD TASTE, AND I *LOVE* IT!
ONCE AGAIN, SADIE HAS *MURDERED* THE COMPETITION!

HURR!
NO!

HURR!
AGHH!

WUP WUP WUP WUP WUP
HURR?

WUP WUP WUP
WUP WUP

HURR...

MR. MAYOR, YOU CAN'T LET THEM DO THIS.
EASY FOR YOU TO SAY! YOUR RE-ELECTION DIDN'T JUST SWING FROM "SURE THING" TO "TOSS-UP"!
IT'S A FUCKING LOSE-LOSE. I FIGHT THIS INJUNCTION, I'M CALLING ATTENTION TO THE NEW MANIAC, AND DECLARING WAR ON THE 30% OF THIS CITY THAT LOVES HER.
HELL, IN STATEN ISLAND, THIS CHICK'S POLLING BETTER THAN I AM!
THEY WIN THIS ROUND. WE'LL HANDLE IT AFTER THE ELECTION.
WRONG. I REALLY DIDN'T THINK I'D HAVE TO SAY THIS AGAIN, BUT I QUIT.
I'M SORRY, ZELDA.
DON'T BE.
I QUIT, TOO.

WAIT, WHAT--?
KLK
YOU DON'T NEED TO DO THAT.
SURE I DO.
IF WE'RE DOING THIS, WE'VE GOTTA DO IT THE ONLY WAY WE'VE EVER DONE IT.
ON OUR OWN.
THIS IS WHAT WE DO.
THIS IS WHAT WE DO.
TO BE CONTINUED!

NEXT ISSUE

3

Maniac Mary hits the Met Gala!
It's gonna be a bloodbath,
and that's before the violence-thirsty
Maniac Mary Bros show up to join her!

ON SALE SOON!

WE WANT TO HEAR WHAT YOU HAVE TO SAY!

Tweet at us or post on Instagram with the hashtags **#ManiacOfNY** and **#OKtoprint** for a chance to see your caption printed in a future issue!

BULLS OF BEACON HILL
REVENGE IS A FAMILY THING
AFTERSHOCK
SHATTERING EXPECTATIONS
Eisner & GLAAD Award-nominated writer STEVE ORLANDO (Midnighter, KILL A MAN, PARTY & PREY) and artist ANDY MACDONALD (Justice League of America, MY DATE WITH MONSTERS) set a powerful father and ambitious son on a politically charged collision course bathed in blood
ON SALE NOW!
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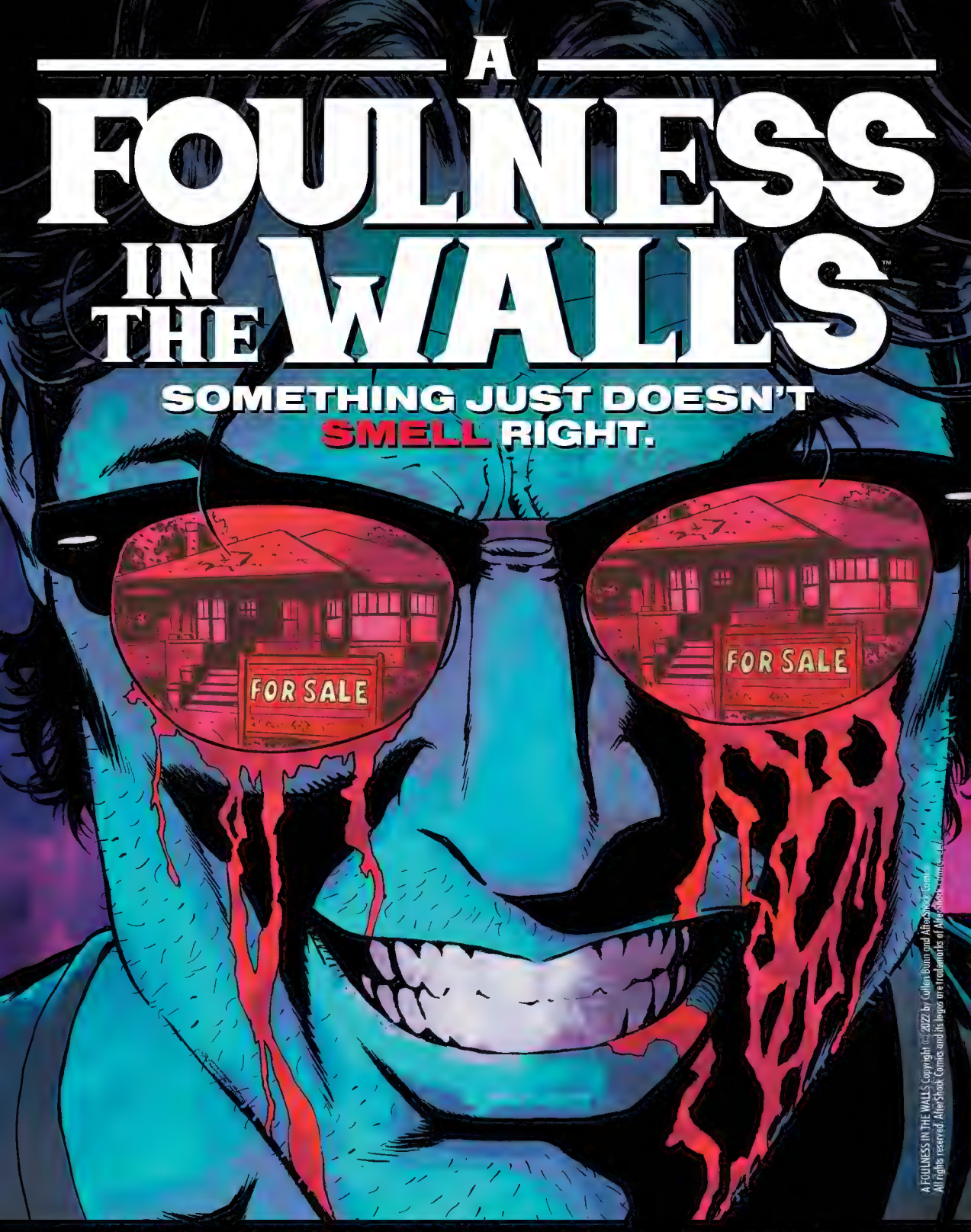

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GEORGE THOUGHT THE NEW HOUSE WOULD HELP HIM START OVER. THE HOUSE THOUGHT OTHERWISE.

A haunting 48-Page Prestige Format "One-Shock" from master of horror **CULLEN BUNN** (DARK ARK, UNHOLY GRAIL, *Basilisk*) illustrated by **RODRIGO ZAYAS** (*Cyber Force: Rebirth*)

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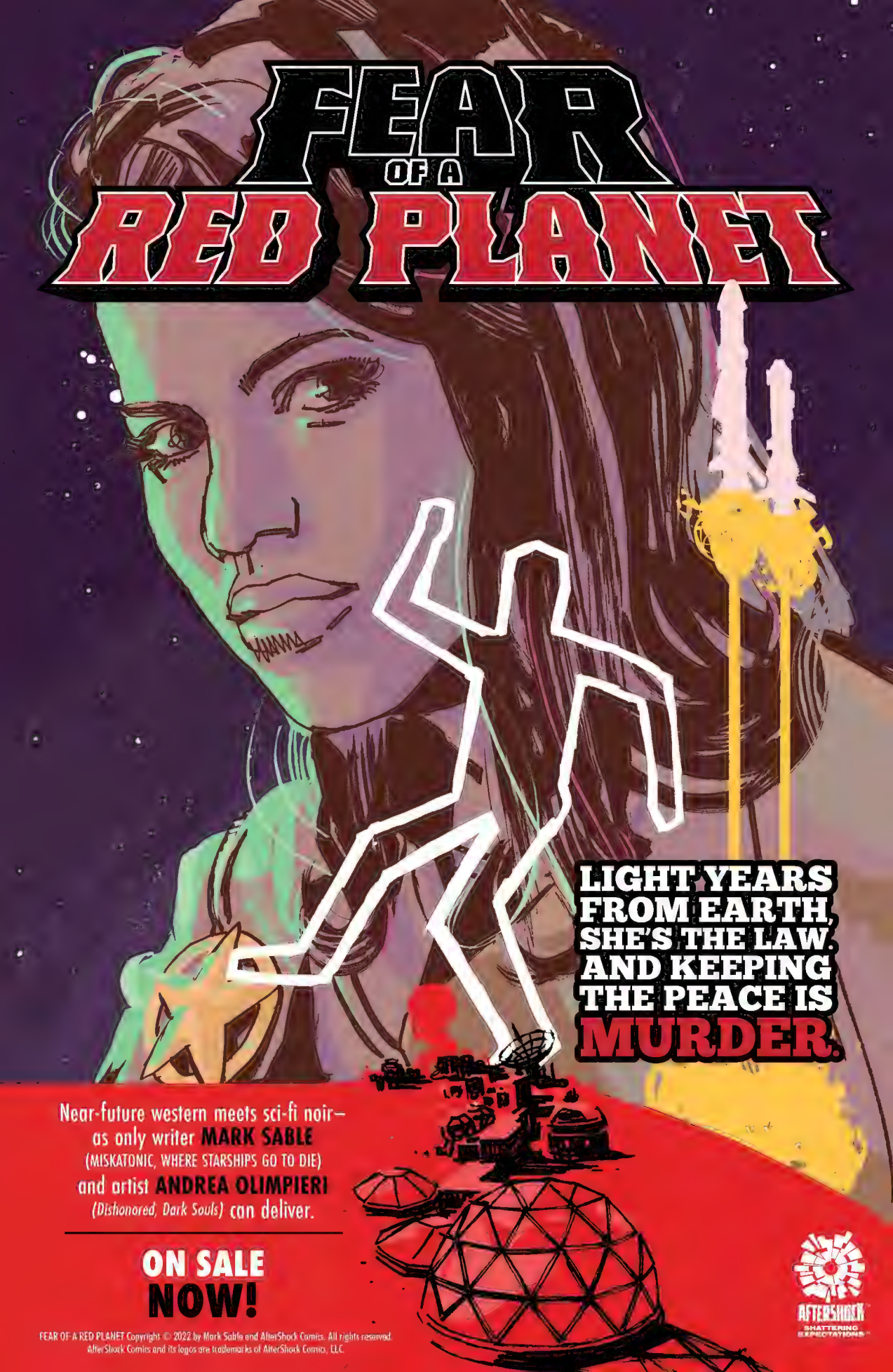
AFTERSHOCK
SHATTERING EXPECTATIONS


FEAR OF A RED PLANET
LIGHT YEARS FROM EARTH, SHE'S THE LAW. AND KEEPING THE PEACE IS MURDER.
Near-future western meets sci-fi noir– as only writer MARK SABLE (MISKATONIC, WHERE STARSHIPS GO TO DIE) and artist ANDREA OLIMPIERI (Dishonored, Dark Souls) can deliver.
ON SALE NOW!
AFTERSHOCK
SHATTERING EXPECTATIONS

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A never-ending nightmare hosted by writer **RAY FAWKES** (JACKPOT!) and artist **ANDREA FRITTELLA** (*Borgata Gordiani*).

48-Page Prestige Format "One-Shock"

ON SALE NOW!

AFTERSHOCK™ SHATTERING EXPECTATIONS™

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CAREFUL, HE BITES.

Brazilian comics creators **CHRIS TEX** *(BlackOut)* and illustrator **SANTTOS** (LAND OF THE LIVING GODS, *Blackout, Night Shift)* unleash a tale of loss, retribution and taking on the greatest empire of machines and robots the world has ever seen.

ON SALE NOW!

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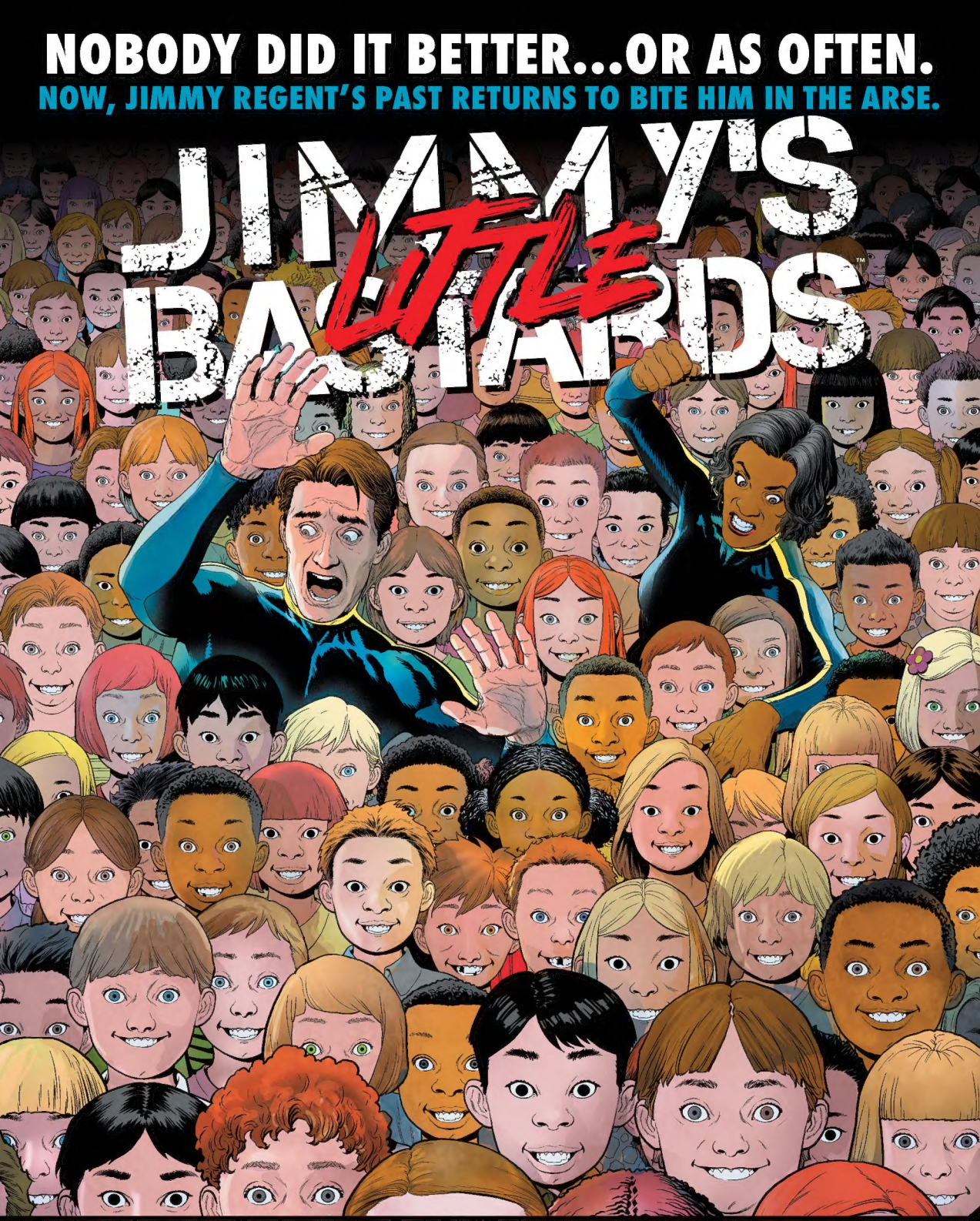
NOBODY DID IT BETTER...OR AS OFTEN.

NOW, JIMMY REGENT'S PAST RETURNS TO BITE HIM IN THE ARSE.

JIMMY'S LITTLE BASTARDS™



Series creators **GARTH ENNIS** (A WALK THROUGH HELL, *The Boys, Preacher*) and **RUSS BRAUN** *(Batman, Swamp Thing, Where Monsters Dwell)* make it a family affair as a new generation of Bastards takes charge!

A 3-issue Oversized Prestige Format Mini-Series with covers by ANDY CLARKE.

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AFTERSHOCK™ SHATTERING EXPECTATIONS™

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ABOUT THE CREATORS OF MANIAC OF NEW YORK DON'T CALL IT A COMEBACK

ELLIOTT KALAN writer

@ElliottKalan

Elliott Kalan has been head writer for *The Daily Show with Jon Stewart*, where he won four Emmy Awards; head writer and EP of *Mystery Science Theater 3000* for Netflix; head writer and Co-EP of the WGA Award-winning *The Fake News with Ted Nelms;* a writer for Netflix's Emmy-nominated *The Who Was? Show;* and co-host of the popular podcasts *The Flop House, Presidents Are People, Too!, and I, Podius.* He's also the author of the children's picture books *Horse Meets Dog* and *Sharko and Hippo,* co-author of the bestselling *Earth: The Book,* and has written comic books for Marvel, DC and Valiant, where he was nominated for a Harvey Award. He lives in Los Angeles with his wife and two insane children.

ANDREA MUTTI artist & colorist

@AndreaMutti9

Andrea Mutti is a comic book illustrator who has worked for publishing companies worldwide, including many US-based publishers such as Marvel, DC, Dark Horse, IDW, Image, Top Cow, Vault and now AfterShock Comics. He was born in Italy, where he attended the visual arts school in Brescia. Andrea broke into the comics industry in the 1990s with publishers such as Femettando and Fenix, winning the Best Italian Illustrator award from ANAFI in 2011. He now resides in Sarasota, Florida.

TAYLOR ESPOSITO letterer

@TaylorEspo

Taylor Esposito is a Tripwire and Ringo Award-winning comic book lettering professional, owner of Ghost Glyph Studios and teacher at the legendary Kubert School. A former staff letterer at DC and production artist at Marvel, he has lettered titles such as *Red Hood and The Outlaws* and *Constantine, Interceptor, Heavy, Finger Guns* (Vault Comics), *Exorsisters* (Image), BABYTEETH, HOT LUNCH SPECIAL, KNOCK EM DEAD (Aftershock), and *No One Left to Fight* (Dark Horse). Other publishers he has worked with include Line Webtoon *(Caster, Backchannel)* Dynamite *(Elvira, Red Sonja and Vampirella meet Betty and Veronica, Green Hornet),* and IDW *(Scarlett's Strike Force).*

READ DANGEROUSLY.

At AfterShock, we work with some of the most original voices and creative visionaries in comics to take storytelling to new heights. Be it horror, crime, fantasy, suspense, science fiction or beyond, our mission is to challenge your assumptions, push your limits and shatter your expectations.

Don't settle for the same old. Trade up.

"AfterShock has emerged as a true force to be reckoned with...the storytelling is pretty much second to none."

– Reading with a Flightring

MANIAC OF NEW YORK:
DON'T CALL IT A COMEBACK #2
APRIL 2023

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